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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

23683 7590 10/26/2009

MOLEX INCORPORATED
2222 WELLINGTON COURT
LISLE, IL 60532

EXAMINER

ZARROLI, MICHAEL C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 10/26/2009

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/597,434

03/25/2008

Stephan Steinke

9771-007US

1916

TITLE OF INVENTION: MODULAR JACK CONNECTOR SYSTEM

| APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE DUE | PUBLICATION FEE DUE | PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE | TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------|
| nonprovisional | NO | \$1510 | \$300 | \$0 | \$1810 | 01/26/2010 |

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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23683 7590 10/26/2009

**MOLEX INCORPORATED
2222 WELLINGTON COURT
LISLE, IL 60532**

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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

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|--------------------|
| (Depositor's name) |
| (Signature) |
| (Date) |

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/597,434 | 03/25/2008 | Stephan Steinke | 9771-007US | 1916 |

TITLE OF INVENTION: MODULAR JACK CONNECTOR SYSTEM

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|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------|
| nonprovisional | NO | \$1510 | \$300 | \$0 | \$1810 | 01/26/2010 |

| EXAMINER | ART UNIT | CLASS-SUBCLASS |
|--------------------|----------|----------------|
| ZARROLI, MICHAEL C | 2839 | 439-676000 |

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
- 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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| 23683 | 7590 | 10/26/2009 | EXAMINER | |
| MOLEX INCORPORATED 2222 WELLINGTON COURT LISLE, IL 60532 | | | ZARROLI, MICHAEL C | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2839 | |
| DATE MAILED: 10/26/2009 | | | | |

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 2 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 2 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/597,434

Examiner

Michael C. Zarroli

Applicant(s)

STEINKE ET AL.

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 8/26/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

/Michael C. Zarroli/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2839

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stephen Sheldon on 10/16/09.

The application has been amended as follows: **Cancel claims 28-30.**

Rewrite all the claims as indicated below deleting all the reference numbers as shown.

1. (Currently Amended) A modular electrical jack connector system comprising:

i) a first inside jack connector housing-(100) having a first side and a second side that face opposite to each other, ii) a first outside jack connector housing-(101) interconnected with the first inside jack connector housing-(100) at the first side, and iii) a second outside jack connector housing-(102) interconnected with the first inside jack connector housing-(100) at the second side; and

a jack connector-subassembly-(200) inserted into each of the jack connector housing (100, 101, 102);

wherein the jack connector housings-(100, 101, 102) are configured as an assembly of modular adjacent connector housings that are arranged in a row; and

wherein each of the jack connector housings-(100, 101, 102) comprises i) a

front coupling side having at least two openings ~~(110, 111)~~ which openings ~~(110, 111)~~ are disposed one above the other for the purpose of receiving a plurality of electrical plug connectors through the front coupling side and ii) a rear side ~~(112)~~ for the purpose of inserting the jack connector subassembly ~~(200)~~, the rear side being oppositely disposed with respect to the front coupling side; and

wherein each jack connector subassembly ~~(200)~~ comprises a longitudinal strip-like carrier ~~(250)~~ having a substantially right-angled profile and having on the top and on the bottom respectively a series of extrusion-coated or injection-molded jack terminals ~~(260)~~, wherein the extrusion-coated or injection-molded jack terminals ~~(260)~~ embody at a front end of the strip-like carrier uncoated and bent-back cantilevered contact portions ~~(265, 266)~~, and wherein the uncoated and bent-back cantilevered contact portions ~~(265, 266)~~ are disposed aligned in an upper opening ~~(110)~~ and/or into a lower opening ~~(111)~~ of the jack connector housing ~~(100, 101, 102)~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein each jack connector housing is formed out of a plastic material and is adapted for the purpose of receiving one jack connector subassembly ~~(200)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein respectively one metallic shield ~~(500)~~ is inserted between individual adjacently strung jack connector housings ~~(100, 101, 102)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein the strip-like carrier ~~(250)~~ is modularly constructed out of two

stackable carrier halves wherein each half comprises an extrusion-coated or injection-molded arrangement of jack terminals.

5. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 4 wherein a metallic shield plate~~(270)~~ is disposed sandwich-like between two carrier halves.

6. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein the extrusion-coating of the jack connectors up to the uncoated area of the contact portions~~(265, 256)~~ forms a bump or knuckle-like thickening ~~(269)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein the strip-like carrier is modularly constructed out of two stackable identical carrier halves~~(251, 252)~~ and wherein each carrier half respectively comprises a complementarily formed engaging device~~(253a, 253b, 254a, 254b)~~.

8. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein for the purpose of signal conditioning the jack connector subassembly comprises correspondingly adapted component modules~~(280, 261)~~ which correspondingly adapted component modules~~(280, 281)~~ are disposed at least adjacently with respect to a top surface of the strip-like carrier.

9. (Previously Presented) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein a plurality of different conditioning component modules is

connectable with the jack connector subassembly.

10. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein the jack connector subassembly comprises a plurality of signal pins-~~(220)~~ which signal pins-~~(220)~~ extend outwards on one side.

11. (Previously Presented) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein the jack connector subassembly comprises pins for an inline power supply.

12. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein the jack connector subassembly comprises two separated carrier plates-~~(210)~~ and particularly printed circuit boards for the purpose of mechanically holding together the components and their electrical circuitry encompassed by the jack connector subassembly.

13. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 12, wherein between the carrier plates-~~(210)~~ is disposed the strip-like carrier ~~(250)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 12 wherein is disposed between the carrier plates-~~(210)~~ at least one electrical/electronic components encompassing box-type module-~~(280, 281)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of

claim 12 wherein on the outside of the carrier plates are disposed electrical/electronic components~~(255)~~.

16. (Previously Presented) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein the jack connector subassembly is equipped with LED pins.

17. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 16 wherein the jack connector subassembly comprises at least one right-angularly radiating LED~~(290)~~ whose light is forwardly and outwardly guidable via a wave-guide~~(291)~~ to the front coupling side.

18. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 17 wherein each of the jack connector housings~~(100, 101, 102)~~ is formed with guiding channels~~(180)~~ for the purpose of receiving the wave-guide.

19. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein the jack connector housings are disposed on at least one earth plate~~(400)~~ and particularly a printed circuit board which printed circuit board comprises openings~~(410)~~ for the purpose of receiving guided signal pins~~(220)~~ of the jack connector subassembly.

20. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 19 wherein the earth plate~~(400)~~ simultaneously carries further electrical/electronic components.

21. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 19 wherein the earth plate~~(400)~~ comprises a sandwich-like multi-layered composite structure.

22. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein the jack connector housings are encompassed by an external shield housing~~(300)~~.

23. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 22 wherein each inserted jack connector-subassembly~~(200)~~ is directly soldered to the external shield housing~~(300)~~.

24. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 22 wherein the external shield housing is constructed in two portions wherein the first portion~~(315)~~ is attachable to the jack connector housings from the front coupling side of the jack connector housings and wherein the second shield portion~~(320)~~ is solderable to the first portion~~(315)~~ and is attachable to the jack connector housings from the rear side of the jack connector housings.

25. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of claim 1 wherein for the purpose of arranging the jack connector housings adjacently, the jack connector housings comprise respectively complementarily developed fastening devices~~(115, 116)~~.

26. (Currently Amended) The modular electrical jack connector system of

claim 1 wherein at least intermediately strung and/or stringable jack connector housings-(100) are identically constructed.

27. (Currently Amended) A jack connector housing-(100) for a modular electrical jack connector system, the jack connector housing-(100) comprising:

a first side and a second side that face opposite to each other, wherein the first side and the second side are adapted to interconnect with a first additional jack connector housing-(101) and a second additional jack connector housing-(102), respectively;

a front coupling side having at least two openings-(110, 111) which openings (110, 111) are disposed one above the other for the purpose of receiving a plurality of electrical plug connectors through to the front coupling side; and

a rear side-(112) for the purpose of inserting a jack connector subassembly (200), the rear side being oppositely disposed with respect to the front coupling side;

wherein the jack connector housing is modularly arrangeable in a row with and adjacent to at least the first additional jack connector housing.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1 the prior art of record does not teach or suggest alone or in combination, the combination of elements particularly the first inside jack housing a first outside jack housing interconnected with the first housing at a first side and a second outside jack housing interconnected with the first inside housing at a

second side. Regarding claim 27 the prior art of record does not teach or suggest alone or in combination, the combination of elements particularly the first and second additional jack housings and the jack connector housing is modularly arrangeable in a row with and adjacent to at least the first additional jack connector housing.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Zarroli whose telephone number is 571-272-2101. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 to 4:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, T.C. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael C. Zarroli/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit
2839

/M. C. Z./
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2839